

SWARTHMORE, PA – Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) met with the Delaware County League of Women Voters and members of other area chapters on Saturday, February 21, 2009, in Swarthmore, Pa., to discuss how the Economic Stimulus Bill will affect a range of issues, including health care, and the environment.

“This bill will keep people working and put them back to work. And it will provide the resources we need to build the foundation of our future health, prosperity, and security,” said Congressman Sestak.

The stimulus measures include tax incentives for the development and implementation of green energy technology and funding for environmental protection and restoration; money to bolster Medicare and Medicaid and to help subsidize COBRA to protect Americans who have lost their health care coverage; and a range of business-friendly tax cuts and direct infrastructure investment to save and create millions of jobs.

“Our energy policy requires a comprehensive approach that takes the best advantage of all types of energy, while recognizing the need to accelerate the transition to alternative, clean, and renewable sources,” said Congressman Sestak. “In 2006 alone, the renewable energy and efficiency industries generated 8.5 million jobs and nearly \$970 billion in revenue in the United States, showing that the development of alternative energy technologies is not only a long term solution to our dependence on foreign oil – which will improve our national security – but also a proven method of increasing our prosperity.”

Regarding health care, the Congressman said, “I believe that an affordable, accessible, and high-quality care health system must be a shared responsibility among individuals, business, and government. The best approach for this is a system in which competition and transparency of high standards ultimately discipline costs while ensuring quality care. We help ensure the best care by rewarding caregivers for the quality – not the quantity – of care, encouraging competition, and requiring performance standards that lead us toward a system of preventive care, early diagnosis and continuous management of the treatment of chronic conditions.”

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, has fought since 1920 to improve our systems of government and impact public policies through citizen education and advocacy. The League is a grassroots organization, working at the national, state and local

levels. There are Leagues in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong, in addition to the hundreds of local Leagues nationwide. The League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters Education Fund operate at the national level with grassroots support from state and local Leagues. The League of Women Voters is strictly nonpartisan; it neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government. At the same time, the League works to influence policy through advocacy. It is the original grassroots citizen network, directed by the consensus of its members nationwide.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

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